

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of programming a memory comprising:
  - (a) attempting to program a bit at a designated address for a predetermined time;
  - (b) testing the bit to see if it has been programmed;
  - (c) increasing the predetermined time by approximately an order of magnitude;
  - (d) repeating steps (a)-(c) until the bit at the designated address is programmed;
  - (e) repeating steps (a)-(d) by advancing the designated address until all bits in the memory are programmed.
2. The method of claim 1, further including the step of testing selected bits of the memory, and defining the initial predetermined time based on the testing.
3. A method of programming a memory comprising:
  - (a) attempting to program a bit for a predetermined program time;
  - (b) testing the bit to see if the bit has been programmed;
  - (c) repeating steps (a)-(b) with an increased program time until the bit is programmed;
  - (d) repeating steps (a)-(c) by advancing to a next address until all bits are programmed.
4. The method of claim 1, further including the step of testing selected bits of the memory, and defining the initial predetermined time based on the testing.